**Sprinting as fast as she could down the school hallway, Kirsten was trying to catch her bus to get home. It was a few more steps further until she saw the tip of her bus along the corner of the red brick wall outside. Kirsten, a 14 year old girl, with long black hair that was usually in a pony tail, brown eyes that always seemed to sparkle, and a smile that would always shine. But today she was not her normal self.**

**She got closer and closer until she ran up the stairs on the bus. Searching for an open seat, Kirsten squinted toward the back of the bus, and found a seat next to a girl that she knew was in her Social Studies class. She walked slowly down the aisle and sat down in the seat. Looking for her seatbelt, the un-named girl said, “Hi my name is Lexi, what’s yours?”**

**“Hi Lexi my name is Kirsten, I remember you from my social studies class.” Kirsten replied, sinking back into her seat, and smiling as big as she could, since she wasn’t herself, it was kind of hard.**

**“Me too.” said Lexi, opening her eyes wider and wider, and shaking her head up and down. Lexi noticed that Kirsten was not herself because of how happy she looked every day, but today she seemed sad. She knew something was wrong but Kirsten was hiding it because she didn’t think that she should just tell someone that she just met for the first time.**

**Kirsten thought that Lexi was a girl she could trust. Lexi seemed very nice and understanding. Lexi was a 14 year old girl with blonde curly hair and greenish blue eyes. She always seemed happy because she knew how to hide her emotions. Kirsten was very excited to tell Lexi something very important and she would understand. Taking a deep breath Kirsten explained very slowly so Lexi could understand everything she knew about her mother. The only reason she knew all this information was because she heard her mom talk to her dad on the phone last week at four o clock in the morning, she got all this information, and something about kidnappers, and the red building by the school.**

**Kirsten said, “My mom worked for a man named Jeremy Travis. He is a very bad man.”**

**Lexi was sucking in this information like a vacuum cleaner. She was thinking that her mom worked at the same place because she recognized the name Jeremy Travis. She was getting more and more familiar with the story going on and on and on.**

**Kirsten said, “Jeremy Travis was an embezzler, at the bank my mother worked at but she promised not to tell anyone or she would be fired. My mom was supposed to talk to the police today because of the incident, but she knew that she had to tell the truth about Jeremy, because she was not the kind of person who would let this sort of thing just fly right past her.”**

**Lexi finally thought it was the moment to blurt out that her mother worked there too. She knew this because she recognized Jeremy Travis and Kirsten’s moms name Jamie. Lexis’s mom Tori always talked about Jamie because she thought she was such a nice person because she always helped her with work since she was so new to the whole banking thing. Kirsten quietly shouted “Oh no it my bus stop, bye Lexi’. This was Kirsten’s first ride on the bus and she was confused where the bus would stop to drop her off at her house, because she lives on a dead end road.**

**Lexi looked puzzled, because this was her bus stop too. Clicking her seatbelt off Lexi walked up to Kirsten and said “this is my bus stop too.”**

**Kirsten also looked confused because she did not know Lexi lived on her street. She asked, “What is your house number”.**

**Lexi replied, “Fifty three”.**

**Kirsten was startled when she heard fifty three because her house number was fifty seven. When she heard the astonishing number she said as fast as she could, “Wanna come over my house some time”?**

**“Sure,” responded Lexi more excited as a girl at her own surprise birthday party. Rushing down the stairs of the bus the girls got each other’s phone numbers and shut the door to their houses at the same time. They could tell because the thump was as loud as a bolder dropping off a cliff. They were both so excited because they went form not knowing each other to being best friends, and they hoped this friendship would last a long time. They knew this because Kirsten wouldn’t just tell someone her deepest secret not knowing that they would be best friends.**

**Kirsten got in her house flung her backpack on the yellow chair next to the door and sprinted to the kitchen where she found her mother sitting on a computer chair with her big glasses typing faster than a cheetah catching its prey. “Watcha doin?” Kirsten asked in a tired way, because she has been at school working as hard as she could.**

**“Other than typing all day, nothing,” Mom said in an exhausted way.**

**Kirsten could tell her mother did not feel like taking to her because of the sting of exhaustion in her voice. She decided to go upstairs and watch TV for a little while before she was made to do her homework by her mother. She only had a worksheet in social studies and page in math, but she thought that all of it was easy and wouldn’t take her more than twenty minutes. Kirsten was so into the show she was watching she couldn’t hear, even if someone came over and screamed in her ear. About fifteen minutes later she went downstairs to get some grapes as a snack. She noticed her mom’s computer was sitting on the counter, but her mom wasn’t on the by it . She wasn’t really worried at all until she searched the whole house and there was no sight of her. She thought she was outside, but when she looked on the front porch and all she could find was a small folded piece of paper sitting on the blue carpet outside the front door that she would always wipe her shoes on when they were wet, muddy, or snowy.**

**Now Kirsten was super worried to even open the piece of paper, but she did. She looked inside as scared as a small fish getting eaten by a giant shark. It said that there were no worries, only her mother would be away for a little bit, and that she should not come and get her or try calling her. Kirsten wasn’t buying it at all.**

**Searching in her backpack for Lexi’s phone number Kirsten slipped her sneakers on, pulled on her coat and sat down on the bench that she usually ties her shoes on. Finally she found the number stuffed in the front pocket of her backpack. Running into the kitchen Kirsten grabbed the phone, dialed the number and waited until Lexi answered her phone. “Hello” said Lexi happily.**

**“Lexi no time to talk, I think kidnappers that Jeremy Travis hired took my mother and he is going to get yours. Go outside and meet me by the big pine tree as soon as possible, and if you could, can you bring two flashlights, a raincoat, and also wear sneakers this may take a while.” replied Kirsten.**

**“Ok be right there, and by the way I think they already got my mother, because she was supposed to be home when I got off the bus, and she is not home” answered Lexi.**

**“Bye.” They both said at the same time and they hung up. Almost crying Kirsten zippered up her raincoat tied her shoes and open and closed the door as fast as she could. She then took the key out from under the carpet and locked the door so no one else could come in. Kirsten flung the key in the air caught it and stuffed it in the zippered pocket of her coat and tapped a couple times before she ran off to the pine tree where she told Lexi to meet her.**

**Kirsten arrived to the tree without a sign of Lexi. She thought to herself that she was just looking for the flashlights or her raincoat, because it had been the first time it started to rain that month. Hearing a thumping noise Kirsten knew Lexi was going to show up in about a minute. Lexi came running towards the pine tree with a bag strapped around her back that was big enough to have everything she asked for.**

**Struggling to continue holding the bag, Lexi ran faster to the tree to put the heavy bag down. Kirsten was very worried, but a little bit excited to go on this dangerous trip. She thought she would be able to get their mothers back because of the feeling in her. Continuing to be confident, Kirsten turned to Lexi and said, “Lets go!”**

**“Ok I wonder where they are,” replied Lexi.**

**“I think they are at the big red building that is right by the school playground.” said Kirsten in an upset way.” The only reason she knew this is because that’s what she heard at four o clock in the morning when her dad called her mom.**

**“Ok, we will check there first. Also you should bring your cell phone just in case someone calls you, and they don’t know where you are.” said Lexi in a tired way.**

**The two girls went off on this dangerous, but meaningful adventure. Panting the girls were running up the big hill that the bus went up to go to the school. They knew that they were getting closer and closer to the building they thought their mothers were captured at. They ran as fast as they could to the front steps of the building. “All I need now is just a giant lightning bolt over my head to make it even scarier.” Kirsten joked.**

**Lexi laughed, but stopped after a few seconds because of her fear. She wanted to laugh much longer, but she was not in the mood. She wanted to go**

**in and out. In without her mother and out with her.**

**Budging the door open, Kirsten and Lexi quietly tiptoed inside. They looked around, noticing how quiet and dark it was. They did not want to be scared, they acted strong around each other, but inside they were scared, very scared.**

**Walking into the building even more Kirsten and Lexi saw an open door with a bright light shining out of it. They had a tickle in their stomachs. They knew that’s where their mothers were. They suddenly saw a black object move. It was big enough to be a man. They thought it was one of the kidnappers, but right than they could stop and think for a second, the door shut behind them. Looking at the shut door the other door they thought their mothers were in shut too.**

**Scared as could be the girls looked at each other threw down a couple tears and hugged. Next they wiped their eyes, and started up the stairs,**

**slowly. Now they knew their mothers were in there. They just didn’t know how to get them. Tempted to run all the way up the stair and open the door and get caught, the girls continued to walk up the stairs without a noise.**

**Finally they got to the last steps and jumped up to the top floor. They only forgot one thing. What door their mothers were in. Trying to figure out which door would save the girls mothers, Kirsten closed her eyes and pointed. A confident as she could be Kirsten opened her eyes and started to walk towards the door she had pointed at.**

**Twisting the handle of the door, Lexi put her hand on top of Kirsten’s.**

**They opened the door together. When they quietly swung the door open they**

**saw their mothers tied together on wooden chairs. They ran towards them**

**until the man all dressed in black swung from the ceiling and picked them both**

**up. Screaming the girls got tied to chairs too. They both started to cry, when**

**they saw their mothers trying to get their attention.**

**Lexi’s mom started to make a phone looking object with her hand and**

**put it up to her ear. “That’s it!” said Kirsten to Lexi trying to grab the bag from the floor.**

**“What is it?” asked Lexi fast as she could in a confused way.**

**“My phone, I can call my dad, he is painting the walls at the school. He**

**could come and save us all.” Kirsten screeched in relief. Gripping the tip of**

**her phone Kirsten pulled it up to her eye level, and dialed her dad’s cell phone**

**number. “Hello” answered her dad.**

**“Hi dad it’s Kirsten, I need your help now go to the red building by the**

**school.” Kirsten replied in relief of her dad even picking up his phone.**

**“Ummm, Ok, why do I need to come?” asked her dad.**

**“No time to talk dad, just come and you’ll find out right away.**

**“Ok, I’ll see you soon, bye”**

**“By”**

**Both of them hung up the phone. Running up the school stairs Kirsten’s**

**dad Jim, put on his coat, went out the door, and started his car. He put it in**

**reverse, and backed out of the school parking lot right into the parking lot of**

**the building Kirsten told him to go to.**

**Walking into the building he saw Kirsten and Lexi tied in the chairs and**

**Ran up the stairs. He opened the door, pulled out his pocket knife and let**

**them free. “Now you have to save mom, and Tori, Lexi’s mom. They’re in the**

**room to the right. Jim, Kirsten, and Lexi ran into the next room, and found**

**Jamie and Tori sitting in the chairs trying to be calm.**

**All of a sudden the man in black came back down from the ceiling, and**

**tried to grab Jim, but could not lift him. The man was fooled to think Jim**

**was another one of Kirsten, and Lexi’s little friends. Jim cut Jamie and Tori**

**free.**

**Thinking for the right time to make a run for it, Lexi lifted her bag**

**From the ground, and said “Let’s go!”**

**All of them ran down the stairs, and right when they were about to**

**open the door to leave, the man had a friend blocking the door. Jim stepped**

**forward blocking the girls, and said “You have to get through me to get these**

**girls.”**

**The men looked at each other, and at Jim, the at each other, and went**

**after Jim. Jim looked at his fist and sent the guys to step away from the**

**door and let all of them back to safety, which was in the car back home.**

**“That was scary.” Said Kirsten.**

**“Yea!” agreed Lexi, and Tori.**

**“At least you are all ok.” Said Jim in relief.**

**Kirsten and Lexi looked at each other and asked in a whiney way, can we play outside together when we get home.**

**“Sure!” agreed the mothers, but stay out of trouble.**

**“Ohhhh we will we would never want to do that again.” The girls smiled and played and knew that what they did was good, and that they would be best friends forever.**